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ADVANCE REPORT ON DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS September 1993

(All figures in text below are in seasonally adjusted current dollars)

New Orders

New orders for manufactured durable goods in September increased \$0.9 billion or 0.7 percent to \$132.8 billion, the Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census reported today. This follows a 2.6 percent increase in August and is the third increase in the last four months. Year to date, 1993 new orders are 8.3 percent above the same period a year ago.

All major industry groups except transportation equipment and instruments and related products had increases. The largest increases were in industrial machinery and equipment, up \$0.6 billion or 2.5 percent to \$24.7 billion, and electronic and other electrical equipment, up \$0.6 billion or 3.0 percent to \$20.4 billion. The largest decline was in transportation equipment, down \$0.6 billion or 1.8 percent to \$30.8 billion, as a decline in aircraft and parts more than offset increases in motor vehicles and parts and shipbuilding and tanks.

Shipments

Shipments of durable goods in September increased \$2.5 billion or 1.9 percent to \$137.0 billion, the highest level on record. This follows a 4.1 percent increase in August and is the third increase in the last four months. All major industry groups increased. Transportation equipment had the largest increase, up \$0.8 billion or 2.2 percent to \$34.9 billion, as an increase in motor vehicles and parts more than offset a decline in aircraft and parts. This follows a 10.6 percent increase in August. Industrial machinery and equipment increased \$0.6 billion or 2.4 percent to \$24.5 billion, with increases in nearly all industry categories. Year to date, durable goods shipments are 7.6 percent above the same period a year ago.

Unfilled Orders

Unfilled orders for durable goods in September decreased \$4.2 billion or 1.0 percent to \$428.8 billion, the lowest level since June 1988. This is the seventh consecutive monthly decline and twenty-sixth in the last thirty-one months. Transportation equipment, down for the seventeenth consecutive month, had the largest decrease, down \$4.1 billion or 1.8 percent to \$222.0 billion, as a decrease in aircraft and parts more than offset an increase in shipbuilding and tanks. This is the lowest level since February 1989. Excluding transportation equipment, unfilled orders were down \$0.1 billion or 0.1 percent. Electronic and other electrical equipment had the largest increase, up \$0.6 billion or 1.3 percent to \$44.5 billion, as an increase in communications equipment more than offset a decline in electronic components.

Capital Goods Industries

Defense - New orders were down \$0.2 billion or 3.7 percent to \$6.4 billion, as a decline in aircraft and parts more than offset an increase in shipbuilding and tanks. This follows an 8.8 percent decrease in August. Shipments were up \$0.3 billion or 4.0 percent to \$7.4 billion, following a 6.3 percent decrease in August. Unfilled orders, down twenty of the last twenty-one months, decreased \$1.0 billion or 0.8 percent to \$121.9 billion, the lowest level since January 1984.

Nondefense - New orders decreased \$0.7 billion or 2.1 percent to \$31.4 billion, following a 6.4 percent increase in August. Shipments were down \$0.3 billion or 0.8 percent to \$33.6 billion. This follows a 6.7 percent increase in August. Unfilled orders declined \$2.2 billion or 1.1 percent to \$201.0 billion, the sixteenth decline in the last eighteen months. This is the lowest level since June 1989. Excluding aircraft and parts, new orders increased \$1.0 billion or 3.4 percent, the seventh increase in the last eight months; shipments increased \$0.7 billion or 2.4 percent, also the seventh increase in the last eight months; and unfilled orders increased \$0.6 billion or 0.9 percent, the eighth increase in the last ten months.

This report presents advance information on two key business indicators: durable goods manufacturers' shipments and orders. Revised and more detailed estimates plus nondurable goods and inventory data will be published November 4, 1993. The advance report on durable goods for October is scheduled for November 24, 1993. This report is available on the day of issue through the Department of Commerce's online Economic Bulletin Board (N-8-1) (202-482-3870) and through the Census Bureau's online information service-CENDATA. Further information about accessing CENDATA can be obtained from

Table 1. DURABLE GOODS MANUFACTURERS' SHIPMENTS AND ORDERS (Millions of dollars)

	Seasonally adjusted					Not seasonally adjusted ¹				
Item	Monthly			Percent Change			Monthly			Percent
	Sept. 1993 ²	Aug. 1993	July 1993	Aug Sept. ²	July- Aug.	June- July	Sept. 1993 ²	Aug. 1993	Sept. 1992	change Sept.93/92
DURABLE GOODS										
Total: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	137,009	134,520	129,257	+1.9	+4.1	-4.3	146,942	131,934	134,635	+9.1
	132,794	131,860	128,520	+0.7	+2.6	-2.8	140,639	128,446	128,699	+9.3
	428,759	432,974	435,634	-1.0	-0.6	-0.2	426,149	432,452	456,779	-6.7
Excluding defense: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	129,614	127,407	121,663	+1.7	+4.7	-4.5	138,884	125,182	125,953	+10.3
	126,443	125,266	121,289	+0.9	+3.3	-4.1	134,044	122,684	122,272	+9.6
	306,890	310,061	312,202	-1.0	-0.7	-0.1	306,172	311,012	328,127	-6.7
With unfilled orders : Shipments New orders	109,902	108,447	104,574	+1.3	+3.7	-3.6	119,255	106,234	111,036	+7.4
	105,687	105,787	103,837	-0.1	+1.9	-1.7	112,952	102,746	105,100	+7.5
Primary metals: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	11,452	11,327	11,127	+1.1	+1.8	-4.3	11,891	11,452	11,648	+2.1
	11,364	11,103	10,859	+2.4	+2.2	-2.1	11,187	10,732	10,397	+7.6
	22,046	22,134	22,358	-0.4	-1.0	-1.2	21,481	22,185	20,321	+5.7
Industrial machinery and equipment: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	24,453	23,881	23,482	+2.4	+1.7	+1.3	26,555	22,040	23,052	+15.2
	24,731	24,125	23,733	+2.5	+1.7	+3.5	26,618	22,583	23,031	+15.6
	51,135	50,857	50,613	+0.5	+0.5	+0.5	50,837	50,774	50,832	0.0
Electronic and other electrical equipment : Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	19,887	19,653	19,228	+1.2	+2.2	-1.5	22,044	19,426	19,693	+11.9
	20,448	19,850	20,448	+3.0	-2.9	+2.9	22,189	19,516	19,553	+13.5
	44,487	43,926	43,729	+1.3	+0.5	+2.9	44,085	43,940	41,950	+5.1
Transportation equipment: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	34,876	34,124	30,865	+2.2	+10.6	-12.9	36,461	32,645	33,061	+10.3
	30,793	31,360	29,203	-1.8	+7.4	-16.3	31,842	29,749	29,121	+9.3
	221,955	226,038	228,802	-1.8	-1.2	-0.7	220,531	225,150	252,369	-12.6
CAPITAL GOODS INDUSTRIES ³										
Total: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	40,952	40,949	39,317	0.0	+4.2	-4.1	45,234	38,459	43,310	+4.4
	37,716	38,626	37,324	-2.4	+3.5	-5.8	41,343	36,036	39,445	+4.8
	322,881	326,117	328,440	-1.0	-0.7	-0.6	320,705	324,596	353,245	-9.2
Nondefense : Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	33,557	33,836	31,723	-0.8	+6.7	-5.0	37,176	31,707	34,628	+7.4
	31,365	32,032	30,093	-2.1	+6.4	-11.1	34,748	30,274	33,018	+5.2
	201,012	203,204	205,008	-1.1	-0.9	-0.8	200,728	203,156	224,593	-10.6
Excluding aircraft and parts : Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	28,440	27,786	27,447	+2.4	+1.2	+0.5	31,641	26,172	28,378	+11.5
	29,057	28,101	27,601	+3.4	+1.8	+0.1	32,022	26,858	28,151	+13.8
	72,729	72,112	71,797	+0.9	+0.4	+0.2	72,445	72,064	71,026	+2.0
Defense: Shipments New orders Unfilled orders	7,395	7,113	7,594	+4.0	-6.3	0.0	8,058	6,752	8,682	-7.2
	6,351	6,594	7,231	-3.7	-8.8	+24.9	6,595	5,762	6,427	+2.6
	121,869	122,913	123,432	-0.8	-0.4	-0.3	119,977	121,440	128,652	-6.7

(NA) Not available. Revised.

Table 2. AVERAGE REVISIONS TO PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED MONTHLY PERCENT CHANGES (Based on seasonally adjusted data)

Industry	Shipments				New Orders		Unfilled Orders		
	Year ago Sept. 1992	Sept. 1988-1992	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993	Year ago Sept. 1992	Sept. 1988-1992	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993	Year ago Sept. 1992	Sept. 1988-1992	Sept. 1992- Aug. 1993
Durable goods Primary metals Industrial machinery and equipment	0.2 0.1 0.2	0.4 0.4 0.4	0.3 0.3 0.7	0.3 0.8 0.2	0.7 0.6 1.1	0.3 1.1 0.9	0.1 0.3 0.2	0.1 0.3 0.3	0.1 0.4 0.2
Electronic and other electrical equipment		0. 8 0.6	0.5 0.7	1.0 1.5	1.7 1.9	0.8 1.1	0.1 0.3	0.5 0.3	0.2 0.1
Nondefense capital goods Defense capital goods	0.7 4.9	0.7 1.8	0.6 0.9	4.0 8.0	1.9 7.0	1.3 2.7	0.4 0.1	0.2 0.3	0.1 0.1

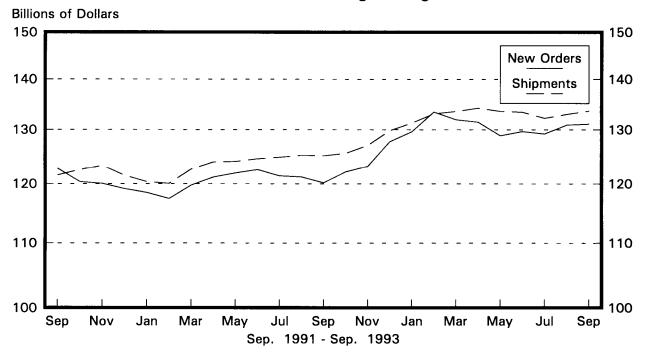
¹ Shipments and new orders are the totals for the period and are adjusted for trading-day and calendar-month variations; unfilled orders are as of the end of the period and are not adjusted for trading-day or calendar-month variation

³ The Capital Goods Industries include Nondefense: ordnance and accessories, steam engines and turbines, internal combustion engines, construction mining and material handling equipment, metalworking machinery, special indus machinery, general industrial machinery, computer and office equipment, refrigeration, heating and service industry machinery, electrical transmission and distribution equipment, electrical industrial apparatus, communication equipment complete aircraft, missiles, and space vehicles, aircraft missiles, and space vehicle engines and parts, ships and tank components, railroad equipment, and search and navigation equipment.

Defense capital goods include: ordnance, communication equipment, aircraft, missiles, space vehicles, and parts, ships, tanks and tank components, search and navigation equipment.

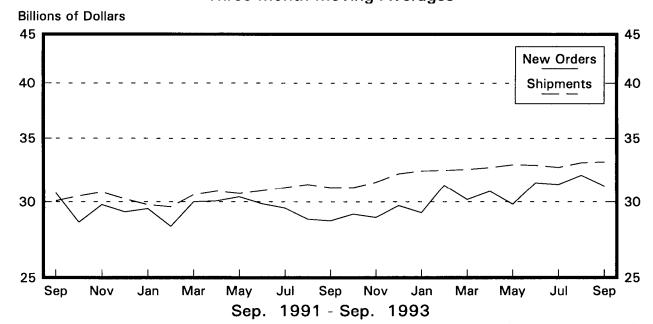
Total Durable Goods

New Orders and Shipments Three Month Moving Averages



Nondefense Capital Goods

New Orders and Shipments Three Month Moving Averages



Note: All Charts based on seasonally adjusted current dollars.